



March 2004

The Bay Leaf

California Native Plant Society • East Bay Chapter • Alameda & Contra Costa Counties

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Plant Sale Activities p. 6

Tuesdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 9 am to noon, Merritt College

Chapter Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 3, 7:30 pm, home of Delia Taylor, 1851 Catalina Avenue, Berkeley

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Fridays, March 5, 12, 19, 26, Native Here Nursery Open 9-noon

Saturdays, March 6, 13, 20, 27, Native Here Nursery Open 10-1

Native Plant Restoration Team p. 6

March 6, 9:30-12:30 pm, San Pablo Creek at El Sobrante Library

Saturday, April 3, 9:30-12:30 pm, Strawberry Creek where it meets the Bay at the Eastshore State Park

Field Trips p. 4

Sunday, March 21, 2:00 pm, Bird Trail, Chabot Regional Park

Sunday, March 28, Black Diamond Mines Regional Park

Saturday, April 10, 9:30 am, Warm Springs Vernal Pools in San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge

Sunday, April 11 (Easter), All day trip to Bear Valley/Carson Ridge in Colusa County

Membership Meeting see below

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Speaker: **Jan Southworth**
Backyard Butterfly Gardening

Wednesday, March 24, 7:30 pm

Conference Center, University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley (directions below)

The San Francisco Bay Area is home to 142 species of butterflies, yet with each passing decade fewer and fewer of these winged jewels are commonly seen. Continuing development and the overuse of pesticides have resulted in alarming decreases in butterfly numbers and diversity. Worldwide butterfly populations have shrunk an estimated 85 percent in the last 50 years. But biologists believe that urban and suburban residential

homeowners willing to convert conventional landscaping to butterfly habitat in their own gardens can make an impact on this significant conservation problem.

This month's speaker, Jan Southworth, is an expert on butterfly habitat gardening. She will present a series of spectacular slides that chronicle the life cycles of two common Bay Area butterfly species. Additionally, she will highlight several plant species that can be used in transforming a backyard habitat into a butterfly paradise.

Jan Southworth has been a park naturalist and environmental educator with the East Bay Regional Park District for 27 years. She manages the Butterfly Garden at

Coyote Hills Regional Park, where she also teaches a variety of classes on natural and cultural history. In addition to habitat gardening, she has specialized in birding and experimental archaeology. Jan has directed the construction and subsequent voyages of four reed boats that completed crossings of San Francisco Bay.

East Bay Chapter CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting will take place in the Conference Center of the University of California Botanical Garden on Centennial Drive, east of Memorial Stadium and west of the Lawrence Hall of Science, above the main campus of the University of California in Berkeley. The Garden gate

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MEMBERSHIP MEETING

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opens at 7:00 p.m.; the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. Please contact Sue Rosenthal, 510-496-6016, or send an email to rosacalifornica@earthlink.net, if you have any questions.

Upcoming Programs

Wednesday, April 28, 2004, 7:30 p.m. (at the U.C. Berkeley Botanical Garden)

David Chipping—The Big Picture: The State CNPS Conservation Program

Wednesday, May 26, 2004, 7:30 p.m. (at the U.C. Botanical Garden)

Alan Kaplan—Four-and-a-Half Billion Years of History in Ninety Minutes or Less

RARE, UNUSUAL AND SIGNIFICANT PLANTS

The seventh edition of *Rare, Unusual and Significant Plants* of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties will be available on March 1.

This report, first published 12 years ago in 1992 and updated periodically, contains a wealth of information about both statewide and locally rare species that occur in the East Bay, ranking them according to their rarity and endangerment at the local level. It is the compilation of many, many hours of extensive fieldwork and other research over the years by numerous dedicated CNPS volunteers and other local botanists and plant enthusiasts. Many have praised it as being an excellent work tool that provides valuable information for local land managers, planners, teachers, students, consultants, conservationists, professional and amateur botanists, and the general public.

The title of the report has been changed from *Unusual and Significant Plants of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties* to *Rare, Unusual and Significant Plants of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties* to more clearly reflect the fact that it contains data on statewide rare plants as well as locally rare species.

As always, there are many updates in the new edition, thanks to the many dedicated CNPS volunteers and others who contribute data. The new edition also contains digitally produced maps, thanks to volunteer Heath Bartosh, replacing the old hand-drawn versions. Several of these new maps appear at the beginning of the four A appendices indicating botanical "hotspots" for each of the A ranks (*A, A1, A1x, and A2).

Another significant change in the new edition is that the division between current and historical records has been moved from 1950 to 1975. While 1950 seemed an appropriate dividing year in 1992 when the report first came out, many of those records are now over 50 years old and can hardly be considered "current". This has changed the rank of some species, since rank is based only on currently existing populations. One of the goals of our research over the past few years,

therefore, has been to visit as many of the populations recorded between 1950 and 1975 as possible to determine if they are still extant or not and to update the database and the report accordingly.

Other notable changes in the new edition are the addition of 16 species not previously known to occur in the East Bay, and the discovery of existing populations for 14 species that were thought to have been extirpated from the two counties.

At the time this issue of the *Bay Leaf* is going to press, the cost of the new edition of the report has not been determined; it will be between \$15 and \$25. An order blank will be available on the chapter website (www.ebcnps.org) and in the April issue of the *Bay Leaf*. The cost can also be learned and copies ordered by sending an email to Dianne Lake at diannelake@yahoo.com.

Dianne Lake



Henry Coe is one of the finest parks in the Bay area. Among state parks it is second in size only to Anza Borrego. It has a great variety of habitats that support a high diversity of plant life. These include serpentine grasslands, dry rocky hills in the east, and oak woodlands in the south and west. This view was taken early last spring in the southern part of the park. *Photo and notes by John Game*

MOSES OF CALIFORNIA

The California Botanical Society (CBS) is pleased to announce that the California moss catalogue and key to species by Daniel H. Norris and James R. Shevock will appear in **Madroño, A West American Journal of Botany** as Volume 51 issues 1 and 2, 2004. The CBS will offer these two works for sale at 15 USD each (includes postage worldwide). Payment can be made by check in USD or by credit card.

Orders are now being accepted. The publication date is anticipated to be on or before March 1, 2004. Orders should be sent to:

California Botanical Society
Jepson Herbarium, Valley Life Sciences Building
#2465
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California USA 94720-2465

An order form can be obtained at www.calbotsoc.org. For questions about ordering, contact the California Botanical Society at 510-643-7008 or send an email to suebain@sscl.berkeley.edu

Norris, D. H. and J. R. Shevock 2004a. Contributions toward a bryoflora of California. I. A specimen-based catalogue of mosses. *Madroño* 51: 1-131.

____ 2004b. Contributions toward a bryoflora of California. II. A key to the mosses. *Madroño* 51: 133-269.

The catalogue lists 596 mosses documented for the state of California. Each species entry contains the following attributes: 1) literature references for that species occurring in California, 2) citation(s) for illustrations, 3) statewide distribution based on physiographic provinces, and 4) citation of representative specimens examined.

The keys include 731 mosses known to occur in the Pacific States of Washington, Oregon, Nevada, and California. In addition, these keys also include mosses recorded from Baja California, Norte, Mexico. Field notes and identification observations are provided for each of the 200 genera covered by these keys.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

CNPS opposed Measure N, the "advisory" vote on the proposal to replace Los Vaqueros Dam with a larger dam. Only voters who are customers of the Contra Costa Water District had the opportunity to vote on this. Hopefully, all remembered "N" is for "**No**".

Thanks to Nathan Smith, the chapter Corresponding Secretary, for pulling together the comments made by Dick VrMeer, Sue Bainbridge, John Game and Charli Danielsen on the East Contra Costa Habitat Conservation Plan Draft and getting them in by the deadline. The plan is important to CNPS as it essentially provides the mechanism by which land in the plan area is either developed or preserved. Once the plan is adopted, there will be a great deal of study and comment required in order to justify preservation of certain parcels. There is also a current HCP process for the Alameda Creek Watershed.

Because of the complexity and immediacy of comment on plans such as these, and the need to keep watch over the plans of every municipality within our two-county area of responsibility, the chapter board has given authorization to seek funding for a half time paid position of Conservation Analyst. The person chosen will work closely with the Conservation Committee to set priorities for projects, develop strategies, and assign tasks for our involvement. An important aspect of the job will be to analyze the scientific data relevant to each project and brief CNPS representatives. Rather than replacing volunteer activity, the addition of a Conservation Analyst will assist volunteers in being more effective advocates for plant protection.

The Conservation Committee needs members who are willing to actively protect native plants and habitat. If you'd like to help, contact Charli Danielsen, Conservation Coordinator, charlid@pacbell.net.

SPRING FAIRS AND SHOWS

Please join us for spring celebrations in your neighborhood or come explore a new region to help get the CNPS message out. Families are welcome, children have a good time at these events. Help for an hour or more would be very much appreciated. We have the props, we just need the people!

Contact Delia Taylor at 510-527-3912 or email deliataylor@mac.com for information and to help out.

March 17-21, **San Francisco Landscape and Garden Show**, www.gardenshow.com

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SPRING FAIRS AND SHOWS

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Saturday, March 27, 11 am to 4 pm, **Sunol-Ohlone Regional Wilderness Wildflower Show**. There will be wildflower hikes to vast carpets of poppies, lupines, goldfields, and other activities and crafts. Check out the website (www.ebparks.org) to read about Alameda Creek, Alameda County's largest stream and Little Yosemite at www.ebparks.org

Saturday and Sunday, April 3 and 4, 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday and 12 noon to 5 pm on Sunday, **Oakland Museum Wildflower Show**, featuring flowers from Southern California, www.museumca.org

Saturday, April 17, **Regional Parks Botanic Garden Plant Sale** in Tilden Park. Gates open at 9 am. Organized by the volunteers of the garden. Plants from the world's largest collection of California native plants. Shrubs, trees, perennials, and some plants that you cannot find in a nursery will be for sale. We will have a membership/information table. www.ebparks.org

CNPS and CESP (Citizens for the Eastshore State Park) will join forces at the **Berkeley Bay Festival**, Saturday, April 17, 2004. Since this festival is very much a family event, we'll have images of native plants for the kids to color. We're looking for volunteers to staff our table, particularly those who are friendly with children. The time commitment is short, just two hours in beauti-

ful weather at the waterfront. There'll be lots of other groups at the Berkeley Bay Festival as well, so it'll be a good opportunity to find out more about exciting changes at the waterfront. If interested, please contact Sarah Ginskey at 510-558-8139.

Saturday, April 24, 11 am to 3 pm, **Richmond, West County Earth Day**. Games, music, art, performances, food, organic gardening workshops. Takes place at the Integrated Resource Recovery Facility, i.e. the recycling center, in Richmond. www.recyclemore.com

Saturday, April 24, 12 noon to 5 pm, **Berkeley Earth Day 2004** (featuring National Dance Week celebrations on stage), Civic Center Park. This is the area's oldest and largest Earth Day Celebration, with attendance of 5000. www.hesternet.net

April 28 and/or April 29, 11 am to 1 pm, **Moreau Catholic High School Earth Days in Hayward**. Information table with handouts and CNPS representative has been requested, lunch provided to participants, www.moreaucatholic.org

Delia Taylor

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, March 21, 2:00 pm, **Bird Trail, Chabot Regional Park**. This short (about 1/2 mile, with insignificant elevation gain) trail is a botanically interesting transition zone between redwood forest and mixed evergreen (mostly oak/bay) forest. At this relatively early date in the flowering season, there will be osoberry, flowering currant, gooseberries, and lots of western leatherwood in bloom, along with early wildflowers such as *Trillium chloropetalum*. The trail starts close to the MacDonald Staging Area in Chabot Regional Park off Redwood Road in Oakland.

Directions: From San Francisco, take the Bay Bridge, staying to the right (but do not go on 880 to San Jose). Take 580 east, and then 24 east towards Walnut Creek. From 24, take 13 south for several miles. From 13, take the Redwood Road exit. On Redwood Road, go east and uphill. At the top of the hill, you will cross Skyline Blvd and pass various equestrian facilities. Follow Redwood Road into the valley. About 2 miles after Redwood Road, turn right into the MacDonald Staging Area parking lot. (It is a large lot and you

cross a bridge over a creek; there is a small lot about 1/4 mile to the north, which is not the correct place.) If you come from the north and reach the entrance to Redwood Regional Park on your left, you have gone about 1/4 mile too far. Please contact David Margolies at 510-654-0283 or divaricatum@aol.com if you need further information.

Sunday, March 28, 10 am, **Black Diamond Mines Regional Park**. Joe Willingham will lead a half-day hike, with an optional additional section. Take Highway 4 east from most of the Bay Area and look for the Somersville Road exit in the vicinity of Antioch. Go south on Somersville Road and stay in the left lane past Buchanan Road. At 1.5 miles from the Somersville exit on the odometer, follow Somersville Road (straight ahead, while the main road bends sharp left and away). Start looking for the sign for Black Diamond Mines Regional Park, and the entrance kiosk and park headquarters will be at 2.6 miles. At 0.9 miles past the park entrance, turn into the large parking lot on the right. Bring water and lunch.

Saturday, April 3, 9:00 am, **Sunol Regional Park.** Kevin Hints will lead a five-hour walk on a loop from Camp Ohlone Road through Little Yosemite and on to Canyon View Trail. This loop includes riparian woodlands, serpentine outcrops, grassland, and several brush/scrub communities with a corresponding variety of spring wildflowers. Blue fiesta flowers, *Plagiobothrys*, shooting stars and numerous lupines will be in flower. We may also come across less common species, such as *Mentzelia lindleyi* and *Astragalus*. Bring \$4/vehicle for parking, water and lunch.

Directions: From the junction of 580 and 680 in Pleasanton/Dublin, take 680 south of Pleasanton and exit at Calaveras Road/84. Go left on Calaveras Road and continue east on Calaveras for several miles until you reach Geary Road. Turn onto Geary Road, which leads directly into Sunol Regional Park. Park at the lot near the green barn, and meet for the trip there. Late arrivals can proceed to Leyden Flat and catch up with the group.

Sunday, April 4, 2:00 pm, **Pioneer Tree Trail, Samuel Taylor State Park.** David Margolies will lead a field trip through the redwood forest communities in this Marin County park. The Pioneer Tree Trail is about 2 miles long, with several hundred feet of elevation change. There are old growth redwoods (as well as logged groves) and early redwood forest flowers.

Directions: From San Francisco, cross the Golden Gate Bridge and continue north on 101 to the San Anselmo/Richmond Bridge exit. From the East Bay, cross the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge, exit 580 at Sir Francis Drake Blvd. (2nd exit in Marin Co.), and continue west through the underpass (here, directions merge).

Stay on Sir Francis Drake Blvd. across most of Marin County; Sir Francis Drake will bend to the left immediately after Red Hill Road, and will continue westward. You enter Samuel Taylor State Park soon after passing through the town of Lagunitas, and you will see redwood groves. Look for the park headquarters and main picnic area on the left after 1 or 2 miles. Enter the headquarters area (there is a parking fee that must be paid whether or not the booth is staffed). Park in a picnic area space, walk across the bridge, left past the group picnic area to the meeting place in the group picnic area parking lot.

Saturday April 10, 9:30 am, **Warm Springs Vernal Pools in San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge.** Sally Reynolds of the US Fish and Wildlife Service

will lead this half day field trip to a site with some of the very few publicly owned vernal pools in the Bay Area. The sides of these pools will have rings of Contra Costa goldfields and *Downingia* along with other species found in wet grasslands. For those interested in grazing impacts, please note that 2003-04 has been the first winter in which the refuge used several head of cattle to graze exotic grasses on the upland areas of Warm Springs.

Directions: Meet at the parking lot for the Don Edwards Visitor Center, where you can safely leave your car; parking is limited at Warm Springs, so carpools are a must. From points north of Fremont, take 880 south to the Dumbarton Bridge exit. Take 84 west to Paseo Padre Parkway, which is the last exit before the toll booths. Turn left onto Paseo Padre Parkway from the exit ramp, go over the freeway, and look for the refuge turnoff past the first stoplight after the overpass. Follow the turnoff into the refuge, which will lead to the parking lot. From Santa Clara County, take 880 north either to the 84/Dumbarton Bridge exit, or you can take the Thornton Avenue exit further south on 880. Thornton will lead to the same refuge turnoff, but only after a longer drive through urban traffic.

Sunday, April 11 (Easter), All day trip to **Bear Valley/Carson Ridge** in Colusa County. Please contact David Margolies in advance if you wish to go on this trip: 510-654-0283 or e-mail to divaricatum@aol.com. Meet at 10:00 am at the intersection of Highways 20 and 16, and visit Bear Valley/Carson Ridge until mid- or late afternoon. Bring water and a lunch. We will take as few cars as possible into Bear Valley. The roads in Bear Valley are unpaved.

Directions: Bear Valley/Carson Ridge is located just west of the intersection of Highway 20 and Highway 16, some miles west of Williams, California on I-5, about 20 miles north of the I-5/I-505 junction. To get there from the Bay Area, take I-80 to Vacaville and then I-505 north to I-5. Continue north on I-5 to the Williams/Highway 20 exit, and then take 20 west to the intersection with Highway 16.

Janet Gawthrop

Live each season as it passes; breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influences of each.

Henry David Thoreau

PLANT SALE ACTIVITIES

Propagation/Potting Sessions:



Tuesdays
March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
9 am to noon
Merritt College
Landscape Horticulture
Parking fee: 50 cents

Rain does not cancel.

Everyone is welcome for all or part of the work sessions. Dress warmly.

For more information: 925-376-4095

Shirley McPheeters

NATIVE HERE NURSERY

Fridays, March 5, 12, 19, 26, Native Here Nursery
Open 9-noon

Saturdays, March 6, 13, 20, 27, Native Here Nursery
Open 10-1

This month we have annuals in six packs, *Ranunculus* and *Delphinium* are available. *Triteleia laxa* and *Dichelostemma* are in good shape for planting. March is the last month for *Iris douglasiana* until the fall. Because they have a much better rate of surviving transplant in the fall and winter, we will be putting them in storage until October.

The nursery is planning to expand and we'll start work on that this month. We need help clearing the expansion area, digging post holes, building the new fence, and building plant storage benches.

Drop by when the nursery is open, or leave a message stating what you'd like to help with and when you are available, either by phone at the nursery 510-549-0211 or to Charli by e-mail charlid@pacbell.net. Volunteers are always needed whenever the nursery is open: Fridays, 9 to noon, and Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm. No need to phone ahead, just show up at 101 Golf Course Drive in Tilden Park (across from Golf Course Main Entrance).

Books are also available at the nursery: Barbara Ertter's *Annotated Checklist of the East Bay Flora* is a great help on those spring walks. *Vegetation Management Almanac for the East Bay Hills* helps you to plan your assault on the weeds that are starting to

emerge, and to plan your year-round maintenance for fire safety.

Charli Danielsen

NATIVE PLANT RESTORATION TEAM

revivify v. To impart new life to.

"Generations at San Leandro Creek" Canyon Elementary School -- A big thank you to both the enthusiastic weeders of all ages who removed Vinca, Himalayan blackberry, French broom, and English ivy, and to everyone who turned out to do the first restoration planting here in over 10 years. Under the redwoods and alders, along the creek's bank, we replaced a few pieces of the riparian habitat by installing *Mimulus guttatus*, *Carex globosa*, *Actaea rubra* and *Tellima grandiflora* - all plants that originated from seed collected on site by the dedicated crew of Native Here Nursery in Berkeley.

March 6, 9:30-12:30 pm, **San Pablo Creek at El Sobrante Library**

Join us for another joint work party with SPAWNERS (San Pablo Watershed Neighbors Education and Restoration Society) - weeding and replanting continues in the Native Plant Demonstration Garden at the El Sobrante Library. Please note that our starting time is 9:30 am.

Directions: Take the El Sobrante/San Pablo Dam Road exit off I-80, go east on the Dam Road for about 2 miles. Turn left onto Appian Way, then immediately left onto Garden Lane and left into the library parking lot.

Bring your favorite gloves and garden tools (some are available to borrow too). Call Elizabeth at the Aquatic Outreach Institute at 510-231-9566 for more information about this project. Heavy rain cancels.

Saturday, April 3, 9:30-12:30 pm, **Strawberry Creek** where it meets the Bay at the Eastshore State Park. Weeding with the Friends of Five Creeks is always so much fun. Feel like yanking up big chunks of ice plant? Digging out noxiously invasive pepperweed? Doing a little shoreline clean-up? Meet us behind the Sea Breeze Market on the corner of University Avenue and Frontage Road, west of the freeway. We will be working next to the creek's outfall - and with what an amazing view! Heavy rain cancels.

steward n. One who manages another's property.

Help wanted: Contra Costa County Stewardship Team - Mitchell Canyon, Clayton.

Over ten years of care has gone into restoring to health a 10 acre grassland at the north base of Mount Diablo State Park. Ideally at least 3-4 people will join in giving this habitat the help it needs: spring mowing, spot weeding, and perhaps participation in seed collecting and sowing with the Seed Team from Native Here Nursery. Full orientation to the site and the project will be provided, and consultation support from the chapter will be available. For more details, Charli would love to hear from you at charlid@pacbell.net.

E-mail reminders: Please contact Jim Sharp at itsa@dnai.com to receive a reminder message the week prior to Native Plant Restoration Team events.

Supplies and gear: For each work party, we ask that you wear long sleeves and pants, a hat, sturdy shoes, and bring water, favorite gloves and gardening tools. We do have some gloves and tools to lend.

Questions or comments? Please call me at 510- 558-8139.

Sarah Ginskey

CALFLORA SEEKS DIRECTOR

Open Position: Executive Director, The Calflora Database, Albany, CA

Calflora (www.calflora.org), the on-line gateway to information about California's wild plants, is looking for an experienced, imaginative executive director. Calflora is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing information about California's plant biodiversity for use in education, research, and conservation. Organized as a digital library, Calflora provides web-based access to habitat descriptions, photographs, observations, nomenclature, distribution maps, and a wealth of other data on native and exotic plants that grow wild in California. In 2002 alone, Calflora received close to one million queries from over 80,000 different Internet domains. More on Calflora's mission and vision can be found at <http://www.calflora.org/about-cf.html>.

The executive director will lead Calflora into its next stage of growth. With the close support of a recently expanded and invigorated board, the Calflora executive director will:

- ⊙ Lead the effort to keep Calflora's funding sustainable and to develop Calflora's potential to fulfill its mission. This includes pursuing new funding and monetization opportunities that are consistent with Calflora's mission.
- ⊙ Maintain and build new strong, constructive relationships with the Calflora community, including Calflora's users, collaborators, plant professionals, and members of the environmental and conservation communities.
- ⊙ Manage Calflora's operations, including recruiting and supervising staff and volunteers, overseeing and reporting to the board on Calflora's contracts and finances, and managing the Calflora office.

The ideal candidate will show the current staff and board that he or she can be a strong and effective leader for Calflora. In particular, the strongest candidates will have proven track records in one or more of the following:

- ⊙ Fundraising
- ⊙ Environmental data in the service of conservation, research, education, land management, or related efforts
- ⊙ Nonprofit management and operations
- ⊙ Negotiating contracts with government agencies and the private sector
- ⊙ Cultivating a talented and diverse community of staff and volunteers

Formal education in the field of botany or computer science not required.

Miscellaneous:

- ⊙ Calflora's office is in Albany, CA.
- ⊙ Calflora will offer the right candidate a competitive compensation package.
- ⊙ This position will remain open until filled.

Candidates should submit a cover letter and resume in one of the following ways:

- ⊙ Electronically in PDF or text format to calflora@calflora.org (preferred)
- ⊙ Via US Mail to The Calflora Database, attn: Executive Director Recruiting Committee, 937 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA 94706

Calflora would be pleased to speak with anyone with questions about this position. To schedule a time to talk on the phone, please contact Roy West at rwest@calflora.org

This job posting is available on the Calflora web site at <http://www.calflora.org>.

ACTIVITIES OF OTHERS

The Friends of the Jepson Herbarium are pleased to present a broad range of topics for this year's weekend workshop series. For more information on the workshops, or to register, please consult <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/jepwkshp.html> or phone Cynthia Perrine, Public Programs Coordinator at the Jepson Herbarium, 510-643-7008.

March 6: Describing New Species; March 6-7: Flowering Plant Morphology and Identification; March 13-14: Basics of Botanical Illustration; March 20-21: Digital Photography at Close Range; March 27-28 and April 3-4: Fifty Plant Families in the Field; April 8-11: Death Valley Flora; April 23-25: Mt. Diablo Flora; April 24-25: Poaceae; May 1-2: Plant Evolution; May 6-9: Kern County Flora; May 8-9: Angiosperm Phylogeny; May 12-16: Painting Klamath Wildflowers; May 15-16: Basic Field Techniques; May 20-23: Big Bear Valley; June 4-6: Fire and Oak Ecology; June 17-20: Spring Mountains (Nevada) Flora; July 22-25: Mount Lassen Flora; September 8-12: Vegetation Mapping and Classification in Yosemite.

Oakland Residents and others who are not familiar with the Friends of Sausal Creek should check out their website. There is lots of action in that neck of the woods. www.sausalcreek.org or call 510-501-FOSC (3672).

Join **Friends of Five Creeks'** Weekday Weed Warriors, 10 am Fridays.

Our group gathers once a week at restoration sites from Berkeley to Richmond enjoying the outdoors while we attack invasives. All are welcome. Contact Susan Schwartz, Friends of Five Creeks, 510-848-9358 or f5creeks@aol.com to get on the email list.

Announcing **Aquatic Outreach Institute's** new Spring Creeks Conference:

Restoration Realities in the San Francisco Bay Area: Defining, assessing and achieving your goals.

March 7: Community Involvement:

"Building Your Base: Outreach and Communication"

"Promoting Community Collaboration"

March 13: Land Management:

"Reducing Urban Runoff"

"Invasive Weed Control"

Pre-registration is required. There is a charge for the weekend workshops: \$25.00 for the first workshop, and

\$15.00 for each additional one. www.aoinstitute.org, or call 510-231-9430.

Saturday, April 3, 2004. 9:30 am–2:00 pm, California Native Plant Society, **Marin Chapter 28th Annual Native Plant Sale**, Tiburon Audubon Center and Wildlife Sanctuary. 376 Greenwood Beach Road, Tiburon. Tiburon Exit off Highway 101, east to traffic lights at Cove Shopping Center, turn right here on Greenwood Cove Road, which becomes Greenwood Beach Road. Great selection of annuals, perennials, grasses, books, posters, slide show and lovely views of the bay. Details: Ken Howard, 415-332-4117.

Saturday, April 17, 2004, 10 am to 3 pm, **California Native Plant Sale, Regional Parks Botanic Garden**, Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley (Wildcat Canyon Road & South Park Drive, near the Brazil Building)

Admission is free, A fun day for families who love California native plants. A memorable experience! Garden staff and docents ready to enlighten and entertain us. Please bring cardboard boxes, if possible, to carry your purchases, and an umbrella if it rains. Refreshments available. 510-841-8732 www.nativeplants.org, BGarden@ebparks.org

Volunteers Sought to Staff Native Plant Gardens on Spring Garden Tour

We would like to find about 100 volunteers enthusiastic about natives to spend a morning or afternoon greeting tour participants and answering questions for the 16 native plant gardens we will have on the Sunday, May 2, **Natural Garden Tour**

For more information, please e-mail Kathy Kramer at Kathy@KathyKramerConsulting.net, or 510-236-9558 between 9 am and 9 pm.

Golden Trout Natural History Workshop. Hike-in wilderness camp at 10,000 feet near Mt. Whitney. Three Naturalist interpreted one week sessions June 27-July 3; July 4-July 10; July 11-17. Reserve early – limited space. For brochure call 805-688-8344, or e-mail paul.rark@verizon.net. See website www.1startists.com/gtc/

Board of Directors

Elected Officers

President:

Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna St., Berkeley 94704, 841-4681,
pepe1066@comcast.net

Vice President, Administration:

Laura Baker, 79 Roble Road, Berkeley, 94705, 849-1409,
Lbake66@aol.com

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Secretaries:**Recording:**

Barbara Malloch Leitner, 2 Parkway Ct., Orinda 94563, 925-253-8300,
bleitner@pacbell.net

Corresponding:

Nathan Smith, 545 Everett St., El Cerrito, 94530, 559-8286,
ncsmith@uclink.berkeley.edu

Past President

Tony Morosco, berkbotanist@onebox.com

Bay Leaf Editor

Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna St., Berkeley 94704, 841-4681,
pepe1066@comcast.net

Committee Coordinators

Bay Leaf Mailing:

Holly Forbes, 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530, 234-2913, w/643-8040,
hforbes@uclink4.berkeley.edu

Book and Poster Sales:

Vacant

Bryophytes:

Dan Norris, 802 Lexington Ave., El Cerrito 94530, 435-2004,
dhnorris@uclink.berkeley.edu

Conservation:

Vacant

East Bay Public Lands:

Peter Rauch, 526-8155, peterr@socrates.berkeley.edu

Education:

Vacant

Field Trips:

Janet Gawthrop, 360 Monte Vista Ave. #214, Oakland 94611,
654-3066, _janetg24@excite.com

Grants:

Sandy McCoy, 1311 Bay View Place, Berkeley 94708,
wbmccoy@earthlink.net

Hospitality:

Irene Wilkinson, 440 Camino Sobrante, Orinda 94563, 925-254-3675

Committee Coordinators

Media:

Elizabeth Bade, 2151 Carrol Rd., Walnut Creek 94596, 937-8006

Membership:

Delia Taylor, 1851 Catalina Ave., Berkeley 94707, 527-3912,
deliataylor@mac.com

Native Here Nursery:

Charli Daniels, 101 Golf Course Dr., Berkeley 94708, 549-0211,
charlid@pacbell.net

Native Plant Restoration Team:

Sarah Ginskey, 1096 Miller Avenue, Berkeley 94708, 558-8139

Plant Communities:

Susan Bainbridge, 2408 Parker St., Berkeley 94704, 548-2918,
suebain@SSCL.Berkeley.EDU

Plant Sale:

Shirley McPheeters, 104 Ivy Dr., Orinda 94563, 925-376-4095
Phoebe Watts, 1419 Grant St., Berkeley 94703, 525-6614,
phwatts@cs.com

Plant Sale Publicity:

Elaine Jackson, 3311 Estudillo St., Martinez 94553, 925-372-0687,
elainejx@mindspring.com

Posters:

Vacant

Programs:

Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornia@earthlink.net

Rare Plants:

John Game, 1155 Spruce St., Berkeley 94707, 527-7855,
jcgame@lbl.gov

Regional Parks Botanic Garden Liaison:

Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornia@earthlink.net

Unusual Plants:

Dianne Lake, 1050 Bayview Farm Rd. #121, Pinole 94564, 741-8066,
diannelake@yahoo.com

Recorded Chapter Information: 464-4977

CNPS Home Page: www.cnps.org

East Bay Chapter CNPS Home Page:

www.ebcnps.org

Bay Leaf &

Board meeting minutes online

Chapter CNPS-EB-Alerts E-mail List:

Find out more; email to listserv@usobi.org with:

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Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

I wish to affiliate with:

____ East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

____ Other _____

E-mail _____
(optional)

Membership category:

____ Student, Retired, Limited income, \$20

____ Individual, Library, \$35

____ Household, Family, or Group, \$45

____ Supporting, \$75

____ Plant lover, \$100

____ Benefactor, \$500

____ Life, \$1000

Mail application and check to: California Native Plant Society, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento CA 95816



Cupleaf Ceanothus (*Ceanothus greggii* var. *perplexans*)



Margaret Ely, Lester Rowntree, and James Roof
Photo by David Amme

Cupleaf Ceanothus (*Ceanothus greggii* var. *perplexans*)

In small panicles of white flowers, tiny umbrella-like petals protect the ceanothus pollen from the moisture of intermittent spring rains. As the sun desiccates the petal claw, the petals are pulled back exposing the still-viable pollen. This leaves the incurved sepals, which are colored like petals, to provide the function of alluring pollinators.

Excellent stands of this southern California chaparral species bloom gloriously in spring in the back country of San Diego County where, like all chaparral, they are maintained by periodic wildfires. Descriptions of this and many other ceanothus species can be found in a wonderful book by Lester Rowntree, *Flowering Shrubs of California*.

Many years ago, Jim Roof, the founding director of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, took me to meet Ms. Rowntree at her Carmel Highlands home.

Notes by Margaret Ely

California Native Plant Society
East Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station
Berkeley CA 94705

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